

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 2009-479-WS - ORDER NO. 2010-123
FEBRUARY 9, 2010

IN RE: Application of United Utility Companies,)	ORDER APPOINTING
Inc. for Adjustment of Rates and Charges)	HEARING OFFICER
and Modification to Certain Terms and)	
Conditions for the Provision of Water and)	
Sewer Service)	

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (“Commission”) on the Commission’s Motion to appoint B. Randall Dong, Esquire, to serve as a hearing officer in the present docket regarding United Utility Companies, Inc.’s application for adjustment of rates and charges and modification to certain terms and conditions for the provision of water and sewer service. This appointment is in order that the hearing officer may dispose of procedural and evidentiary matters pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-3-40 (Supp. 2009).

Section 58-3-40(C)(1) states that upon the request of any party or any commissioner, the commission may employ a hearing officer who may hear and determine procedural motions or other matters not determinative of the merits of the proceedings. Under (C)(2), the hearing officer has full authority, subject to being overruled by the Commission, to rule on questions concerning the conduct of the case and other matters. Under (C)(3), the officer must be an attorney qualified to practice in all courts of this State with a minimum of eight years’ practice experience.

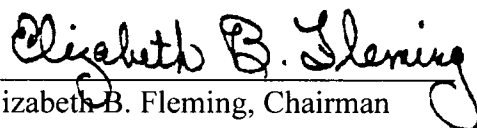
We find that B. Randall Dong meets these qualifications, and we therefore grant the Motion appointing him as hearing officer in this case. As hearing officer in this proceeding, we direct Mr. Dong to rule on appropriate matters in the case and dispose of procedural and evidentiary matters for this proceeding.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

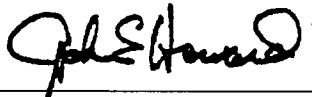
1. B. Randall Dong, Esquire, is hereby appointed as hearing officer in Docket No. 2009-479-WS, regarding the application of United Utility Companies, Inc. for adjustment of rates and charges and modification to certain terms and conditions for the provision of water and sewer service, for disposition of procedural and evidentiary matters for this proceeding.

2. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:


Elizabeth B. Fleming, Chairman

ATTEST:



John E. Howard, Vice Chairman
(SEAL)